

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope  
2 system comprising:  
3 an endoscope having a solid-state imaging device;  
4 a signal processing unit which receives a signal  
5 from the solid-state imaging device and converts the  
6 signal into a video signal;  
7 a detector provided in the signal processing unit,  
8 the detector detecting the type of the solid-state  
9 imaging device which sends the signal to the signal  
10 processing unit;  
11 a directing unit for providing, a switch for  
12 ~~accepting a user input to instruct signal processing by~~  
13 the signal processing unit, a signal processing directive  
14 according to a selection by an operator, the directing  
15 unit having a directive displaying unit for displaying  
16 contents of directives which can be selected to the  
17 operator ~~switch being provided in the electronic~~  
18 ~~endoscope system; and~~  
19 a restricting portion for restricting the displaying  
20 of the contents of the directives in the directive  
21 displaying unit instruction, from the switch, input by a  
22 ~~user~~ according to the result of detecting performed by  
23 the detector, ~~the restricting portion being provided in~~  
24 ~~the electronic endoscope system.~~

Claim 2 (canceled)

1 Claim 3 (original): An electronic endoscope system  
2 according to Claim 1, wherein: the signal processing  
3 unit includes a main board on which basic features are  
4 implemented, and an expansion board which is attachable  
5 or detachable to or from the main board and on which  
6 extension processing is performed on an image signal  
7 processed by the basic features; and the detector detects  
8 whether the expansion board is present.

Claim 4 (canceled)

1 Claim 5 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope  
2 system according to Claim 1, wherein the directing unit  
3 further includes ~~the restricting unit that restricts~~  
4 ~~processing restricts handling of~~ a switch on the front  
5 panel of the signal processing unit, and wherein the  
6 restricting portion further restricts handling of the  
7 switch ~~or lighting of an LED on the front panel.~~

1 Claim 6 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope  
2 system according to Claim 1, wherein the directing unit  
3 further includes ~~the restricting unit that restricts~~  
4 ~~processing restricts handling of~~ a switch on the keyboard  
5 of the signal processing unit, and wherein the  
6 restricting portion further restricts handling of the  
7 switch ~~or lighting of an LED on the front panel.~~

1 Claim 7 (original): An electronic endoscope system  
2 according to Claim 1, wherein the processing to be

3 performed by the signal processing unit is electronic  
4 zooming.

1 Claim 8 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope  
2 system according to Claim 1, wherein the restricting ~~unit~~  
3 portion further restricts indication of a feature that  
4 achieves the signal processing directive to be  
5 restricted.

1 Claim 9 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope  
2 system according to Claim 8, wherein the signal  
3 processing directive to be restricted is enlargement  
4 based on electronic zooming, and the presentation of an  
5 electronic zooming magnification is restricted.

1 Claim 10 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope  
2 system comprising:

3 an endoscope having a solid-state imaging device;  
4 a signal processing unit which receives a signal  
5 from the solid-state imaging device and converts the  
6 signal into a video signal;

7 a detecting means provided in the signal processing  
8 unit, for detecting the type of the solid state imaging  
9 device which sends the signal to the signal processing  
10 unit;

11 ~~means, provided in the electronic endoscope system,~~  
12 ~~for accepting a user signal processing instruction,~~

13        means for providing, to the signal processing unit,  
14        a signal processing directive according to a selection by  
15        an operator, the means for providing a signal processing  
16        directive including means for displaying contents of  
17        directives which can be selected to the operator; and  
  
18        means for a restricting the displaying of the  
19        contents of directives in the means for displaying means,  
20        ~~provided in the electronic endoscope system, for~~  
21        ~~restricting the user signal processing instruction~~  
22        according to the result of detecting performed by the  
23        ~~detecting means~~ detecting means.

1    Claim 11 (new):    An electronic endoscope system according  
2    to Claim 1, wherein the directing unit further includes  
3    an LED on the front panel, and wherein the restricting  
4    portion further restricts lighting of the LED.

1    Claim 12 (new):    An electronic endoscope system according  
2    to Claim 1, the restricting portion displaying  
3    unavailable directives in the directive displaying unit  
4    in a manner that indicates such unavailability to the  
5    operator.

1    Claim 13 (new):    An electronic endoscope system according  
2    to Claim 12, the restricting portion displaying  
3    unavailable directives in the directive displaying unit  
4    with hatching, thereby indicating such unavailability to  
5    the operator.

1 Claim 14 (new): An electronic endoscope system  
2 comprising:  
3 an endoscope having a solid-state imaging device;  
4 a signal processing unit which receives a signal  
5 from the solid-state imaging device and converts the  
6 signal into a video signal;  
7 a detector provided in the signal processing unit,  
8 the detector detecting the type of the solid-state  
9 imaging device which sends the signal to the signal  
10 processing unit;  
11 a switch for accepting a user input to instruct  
12 signal processing by the signal processing unit, the  
13 switch being provided in the electronic endoscope system;  
14 and  
15 a restricting portion for restricting the  
16 instruction, from the switch, input by a user based  
17 solely on the type of solid-stage imaging device detected  
18 by the detector.